

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044498

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ORIGIN SY-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/T: JFPERDEW:MB

APPROVED BY A/SY/T: JFPERDEW, ACTING CHIEF

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R 271944Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044498

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:ASEC

SUBJECT: IBM MAG-CARD SELECTRIC TYPEWRITER

REF: BANGKOK 20225 AND BANGKOK 2372

BANGKOK FOR RSO, HONG KONG FOR RTC

1. ALL ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS EXCEPT ONE PRESENT DEFINITE TEMPEST HAZARDS. HAZARDS COME FROM BOTH FREE SPACE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC RADIATION AND POWER LINE CONDUCTED SIGNALS OF THE TWO HAZARDS, THE POWER LINE CONDUCTION IS THE MOST SERIOUS.

2. ONLY TYPEWRITER APPROVED FROM A TEMPEST STANDPOINT IS THE IBM SELECTRIC WITH THE INERTIAL MOTOR MODIFICATION. MACHINES WITH THIS MODIFICATION FACTORY INSTALLED HAVE MODEL NUMBER 875 AND 895. MOTOR MODIFICATION CAN BE RETROFITTED INTO SELECTRICS WITH FIFTEEN INCH CARRIAGE.

3. MAGNETIC CARD AND TAPE MACHINES PRESENT FURTHER HAZARD IN THAT ASSOCIATED ELECTRONIC CIRCUITRY RADIATES TYPED TEXT. THERE ARE NO KNOWN MODIFICATION KITS THAT WILL ELIMINATE TIS RADIATION.

4. THEREFORE, WHILE CERTAIN IBM SELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS

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CAN BE USED TO TYPE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, THE MAGNETIC
CARD OR TAPE MACHINES CANNOT BE USED FOR THE TYPING OF
CLASSIFIED INFORMATION AT AN OVERSEAS POST. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE044498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFPERDEW:MB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750071-0574
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975026/aaaaafaz.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BANGKOK 20225, 75 AND BANGKOK 2372
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IBM MAG-CARD SELECTRIC TYPEWRITER
TAGS: ASEC
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006